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# STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE SOCIAL WORKER SECTION MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

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LS0404214SOC

HEIDI C. SOYK, C.S.W., RESPONDENT.

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#### FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

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The parties to this action for the purposes of § 227.53, Stats., are:

Heidi C. Soyk, C.S.W. 120 N. Berger Parkway #F16 Fond du Lac WI 54935

Social Worker Section
Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling
& Social Work Examining Board
PO Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Department of Regulation and Licensing Division of Enforcement PO Box 8935 Madison, WI 53708-8935

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision in this matter, subject to the approval of the Social Worker Section. The Section has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Section in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. Heidi C. Soyk, C.S.W., Respondent, date of birth August 1, 1977, is certified by the Social Worker Section as a social worker in the State of Wisconsin pursuant to certificate number 7640, which was first granted November 1, 2000.
- 2. Respondent received a bachelor of social work degree from Marian College in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin on August 15, 2000. Respondent took and passed the basic level AASSWB examination on October 7, 2000.
- 3. Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 120 N. Berger Parkway #F16, Fond du Lac, WI 54935.
- 4. Prior to June 13, 2003, Respondent was employed by the Winnebago County Department of Human Services (WCDHS) as a social worker assigned to the Delinquency Team at the WCDHS office in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.
- 5. During the spring of 2003, several of Respondent's co-workers had small amounts of money stolen from them while at work. In May 2003, a co-worker returned unexpectedly from her break and saw Respondent with her hand in the co-worker's purse. WCDHS conducted an investigation and on June 11, 2003, Respondent admitted to

WCDHS staff that she had been stealing money from her co-workers. As a result of this misconduct, Respondent's employment was terminated by WCDHS.

- 6. Respondent has not been employed as a social worker since her WCDHS employment was terminated. Respondent attributes her misconduct to her clinical depression and her need to purchase anti-depressants.
- 7. Respondent's conduct was misdemeanor theft, a violation of § 943.20 (1)(a) and (3)(a), Stats., laws, the circumstances of which substantially relate to Respondent's practice of social work under her certificate.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to § 457.26(2), Stats.
- 2. The Social Worker Section of the Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution pursuant to § 227.44(5), Stats.
- 3. Respondent, by having violated laws, the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practice under her certificate, has engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 20.02(2) and is subject to discipline pursuant to § 457.26(2)(f), Stats.

#### **ORDER**

#### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1. The certificate as a social worker in the State of Wisconsin of Heidi C. Soyk, C.S.W., Respondent, is hereby suspended for an indefinite period of time, effective immediately.
- 2. Respondent may petition the Social Worker Section for the termination of the suspension, under the following terms and conditions:
  - a. Respondent shall, at Respondent's own expense, have undergone an assessment by a mental health care provider (Assessor), who has not treated Respondent.
  - b. The Assessor must have been approved by the Section, with an opportunity for the Division of Enforcement to make its recommendation, prior to the evaluation being performed.
  - c. Respondent must provide proof sufficient to the Section that the Assessor believes that Respondent does not suffer from a condition which prevents her from practicing with reasonable skill and safety of clients and public.
  - d. If the Section determines to end the suspension, Respondent's certificate shall be limited in a manner to address any concerns the Section has as a result of the conduct set out in the findings of fact and to address any recommendations resulting from the assessment, including, but not limited to:
    - i. Psychotherapy, at Respondent's expense, by a therapist approved by the Section, to address specific treatment goals, with periodic reports to the Section by the therapist.
      - ii. Additional professional education in any identified areas of deficiency.
    - iii. Restrictions on the nature of practice or practice setting or requirements for supervision of practice, by a professional approved by the Section, with periodic reports to the Section by the supervisor.

- iv. Appearing before the Section on an annual basis, if requested by the Section, to review the progress of any treatment and rehabilitation.
- 3. Respondent shall, within 90 days of the date of this Order, pay the costs of this proceeding in the amount of \$500.00 to the Department of Regulation and Licensing, pursuant to § 440.22(2), Stats.
  - 4. All requests, notices or payments required by this Order shall be mailed faxed or delivered to:

Department Monitor
Department of Regulation and Licensing
Division of Enforcement
1400 East Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
Telephone: (608) 267-3817

Fax: (608) 266-2264

- 5. If Respondent believes that the Section's refusal to end the suspension is inappropriate or that any limitation imposed or maintained by the Section under paragraph 2d is inappropriate, Respondent may seek a class 1 hearing pursuant to §227.01(3)(a), Stats., in which the burden shall be on Respondent to show that the Section's decision is arbitrary or capricious. The suspension or limitations on Respondent's certificate shall remain in effect until there is a final decision in Respondent's favor on the issue.
- 6. Violation of any term or condition of this Order, or of any limitation imposed under paragraph 2d above, may constitute grounds for revocation of Respondent's certificate as a social worker in Wisconsin. Should the Section determine that there is probable cause to believe that Respondent has violated the terms of this Order, or any limitation imposed under paragraph 2d above, the Section may order that Respondent's certificate be summarily suspended pending investigation of and hearing on the alleged violation.

The rights of a party aggrieved by this Decision to petition the Board for rehearing and to petition for judicial review are set forth on the attached "Notice of Appeal Information."

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this 21st day of April, 2004.

George J. Kamps, L.C.S.W. Chairperson Social Worker Section